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June 18, 2012

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

W. James McNerney, Jr.
The Boeing Company
Chairman

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Honeywell International, Inc.
Vice Chairman

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Senior Vice President

Dear Leader Reid, Speaker Boehner, Leader McConnell, and Leader Pelosi:

When 100 CEOs gathered in Washington last week for Business Roundtable's Quarterly Meeting, many expressed concern that Congress would need time to react to the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Business Roundtable (BRT) urges Congress to withhold any legislative response or rush to judgment until the impact of the Court's opinion is thoroughly reviewed and understood.

More than \$2 trillion is spent annually on health care in the United States, and the economic implications of the court's ruling and subsequent legislation could be enormous, coming at a time when our economy is struggling and unemployment remains unacceptably high. Whatever the ruling, the nation would be well served by a "cooling-off period" that would allow elected leaders to fully consider their options. A careful review of the court decision could then lead to hearings before development of a legislative response.

Public hearings would provide the opportunity to analyze the court's ruling, its impact on the economy and the health care system. Through hearings, President Obama and members of his administration could lay out their views while giving you time to solicit the views of consumers, the health care industry, insurers and business leaders.

June 18, 2012

Page 2

Most Americans get coverage through the workplace, and we are keenly aware that many are concerned that this decision may undermine employer-sponsored coverage. As the providers of health care coverage to nearly 40 million beneficiaries, Business Roundtable CEOs will continue that coverage through the plan year. Still, we need to understand the ground rules.

Accordingly, BRT encourages Congress to restrain from immediate action in response to the Supreme Court ruling. BRT believes any legislative action should only follow a thorough review of the court's decision, its economic impact, and its impact on the American health care system.

Business Roundtable would be pleased to support this effort by providing a forum and offering the expertise of our member CEOs and their companies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Engler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Engler

JE/mg